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Jan 31 Chan

Just flew over Ben Sue — couldn't land
(Vam aground) because nobody there — but VC.

C. talked to refugees & lt. from G-5 ARVN 5th.

There are several large villages near Ben Sue,
that VC also rely on:

a) It inconveniences VC to lose people of
Ben Sue — but not much. (food, info, labor, ...)

b) It would hurt VC very badly to lose all
people of area; but

c) since tens of thousands would be involved,
C would oppose this.

(People of Ben Sue were relatively rich;
good land; now worse off now. (What is
effects of this of on other people, that VC tell?)

Chair:

Compare with Ho Chi Minh — patriot...

People do not support VC now then,

→ Put other generals to run: active, inactive

Minh say: If you run, I run. In interests
of country, do not run.

(Comm in Phu Bai: "conspiracy." "Make it look
as if he's in disfavor.")

"Don't talk of politics — let US decide. Only
Pres we need is US Pres."

Run-off.

Chan ^{and is anti-US}
— Where who always spoke well of NLF, now angry; ^{at NLF}

US is committed — will not leave ~~area~~ without victory, even if VN is destroyed; NLF won't cut down — pride — and wrong theory that US will quit if enough losses: though VN may be destroyed.

People now apathetic; Struggle was expression of nationalistic vigor.

(Tri Quang now lives with Th. Thien Hoa, head of An Quang, head of Southern Buddhists; alliance between Southern & Central Budds. ^{said to be} Also with Huong.)

^{VNese}
If ~~him~~ or Huong or Minh wins: a) feeling of relief;
b) interest in what they are doing; c) sense of involvement, potency, ~~individual~~ responsibility

^{Minh?} ^{encourage better} ^{7 good candidates}
[But try not to run; if runs, get him defeated — may mil. candidates, run-off; if wins — get good NA.]

Don, Hien

TRAN THI HANH USAID 654

~~South Vietnam~~ ~~Miss. Univ.~~

Cham

Attitudes re military:

1. Under French, ~~the~~ slave/servant
nationalists
2. No recent examples of patriots. (though brave)
3. Fought for French
4. Illiterate
5. Seniors off today known as collaborators —
Cham

(not "anti-Comm" — "of by people like me", most by
QDD?)

Hien, 28 April:

or Loan

promote, crush

- Belief that CIA: Van; Don; Minh; Stungler; Diem/Budd
assassination suspects:

(formerly: 2nd Bureau or VM; Diem/Minh/Stungler or VC; now CIA, Loan or VC.

Thao killed by Huong, 1st Dist. Pol. Chief, then sent to Loan, MSS; least picked, crushed
Hien, one of many arrested; Dr. Minh Southern; ^{travels}

Must work at low levels, Diet/will, Power; doesn't matter who PM;
Ky efficient; stability. Huong, Sun, HT Ky, discredited old men; Ky has a team,
Huong doesn't. 30% for Ky, 20% for Huong; least bad.

(C: US did very well with Baothin, for several years.)

(attitude in Hanoi: Cabot Lodge crushed de Lathier; then destroyed Cath;
Cham Buddhists)

KY = SAMMY DAVIS, JR. (One-eyed Jewish

Negro, with blonde Swedish wife)

- "If ^{or} Ky is in office for 5 years" - I go VC

- Thien: people tired of mil govt } [✓] but either wins, manipulation, US/Koon. (Van Van)

Ky poll: students want civ

- Payoff:
 - Ky's personal qualities - schemer } [✓] stability, elections, youth, depopulation
 - not all VN war premises valid ✓
 - Ky on Thien or mil ✓
 could be worse

Ky:
 more puppet than most } [✓] origin US export in struggle than, Hanoi Ky use of impression

Puppet OK: but Ky?! "Inevitable." ✓
 "Natural"

Military: Alt. is really Thien: Ky can't gain trust - spy, ✓
 different - but Thien is intrinsically (Mist, Quat).
 Center, Catholic

- Effects of power on military: process, promotions, ✓
 ~~Dictatorship~~ indiscipline, alliances, unqualified leaders.

Compare capture/character of new generals with pre-1963.

Mil. don't satisfy need for VN war since - and may not allow free NA. ✓
 Ky, Thien

Want to be popular: low about, tough, stable.

- Dictatorship

- Weakness of mil (1st Div; 5th Div as support to Thim) ✓

- Dien failure - despite advantages ^{25th} ✓

- Wg report mistakes of Dien - when people are less willing to accept?

Neither Thim nor Wg represents change from bad record of past years.

Leadership: {draw away from VC
merit
motivation

"New" gov: CJ could support it.

— Gov could be either civ or mil, dir or democracy
But...

We do support mil. dir elsewhere, but... are there
govs up to suppressing Com. insurgency? Or is more
pop involvement & support needed?

Need for ~~stable~~ NA: regional parties.
Integration. Vs. anti-US.